

Official Minutes for Webb County
Commissioners Court Emergency Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2007
(APPROVED FEBRUARY 12, 2007)

- Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Danny Valdez
Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Danny Valdez	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Sergio "Keko" Martinez	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 20th of January 2006. Present also were Mrs. Imelda Diaz, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

- Item No. 2. Roll call by Honorable Margie Ramirez-Ibarra, Webb County Clerk

- Item No. 3. Pledge of Allegiance

- Item No. 4. Discussion and possible action to close all county offices with the exception of essential personnel due to severe weather conditions, and any matters incident thereto.

Mr. Leroy Medford, Executive Administrator to County Judge, asked Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney to address the Court on item. Mr. Bratton explained that in order for the Court to post the emergency meeting a 2 hour posting in advance was required and was met being that the agenda was posted at 1:46 p.m. He stated that the agenda item includes all county offices under Commissioner's Court and does not apply to Elected Officials and/or departments under the Judiciary, however, it was up to each of those departments whether to close or not.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, advised the Court that by 9 p.m. there was an expected 80% of sleet and rain. He stated that Salvador Garcia Middle School was opened to the public needing shelter and has been opened since yesterday and would continue from 5:00 p.m. till noon tomorrow. Cmr. Garza asked if there had been any contact with TX DOT to which Mr. Rodriguez said yes and that Captain Salinas

and San Antonio TX DOT were monitoring the highways. He also explained that he had spoken to Mr. Juan Gonzalez, Rio Bravo Mayor, to which he advised that they were also like TX DOT monitoring to roads.

Cmr. Garza thanked the media because they were there to get the information out to the public in a timely manner. He asked what the level of cooperation with the City of Laredo was. Mr. Rodriguez explained that there was a lot of communication with the City and that they were going to have the Laredo Civic Center Ballroom serving as a shelter. Cmr. Garza asked that in reference to the item what "essential personnel" was. Mr. Nathan Bratton explained that they were designations of certain departments which included El Aguila Transportation, Sheriff's Department, Road & Bridge, and Utilities Department.

Cmr. Martinez asked if any centers expressed a need to be kept opened. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez responded that it was better if only one center was kept opened. Judge Valdez asked who was responsible for providing transportation if there was need for it by the Colonias. Mr. Rodriguez stated that his contact number was 956-744-0668 and he would contact Mr. Kazen and advise him that transportation is needed. Cmr. Tijerina mentioned that Mr. Mike Kazen had advised her that El Aguila was available for transportation. Cmr. Sciaraffa thanked UISD for making the shelter assessable to the community. Cmr. Garza asked if the Buenos Aires Community Center was going to be closed and if so if the elderly who attend were being advised. Cmr. Sciaraffa asked Mr. Kazen if his recommendation was to close all centers to which he answered yes and that the elderly would be advised. Cmr. Garza mentioned that if there was a need to keep any centers open in case of an emergency that Mr. Kazen should notify the County Engineer as well and the County Judge.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion. Mr. Nathan Bratton recommended to the Court to include in the motion to notify in case of an emergency Mr. Tomas Rodriguez so that he could coordinate the situation.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted and to notify in case of an emergency Mr. Tomas Rodriguez so that he could coordinate the situation. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

5. Adjournment

Cmr. Tijerina advised the public that Ms. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor Collector, had informed her that the Tax Office would be open on Saturday, January 27, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.